

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

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IN THE MATTER OF

MRS. BEULAH BEAM, MRS. JUANITA SMITH,)
AND OTHER BULLITT COUNTY CONSUMERS)

VS.)

SOUTH CENTRAL BELL TELEPHONE COMPANY)
534 ARMORY PLACE)
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40202)

CASE NO. 6882

AND)

ECHO TELEPHONE COMPANY)

1009 BUCKMAN STREET)

SHEPHERDSVILLE, KENTUCKY)

O R D E R

On May 30, 1978, the Public Service Commission (Predecessor to The Utility Regulatory Commission), issued its Order in the above styled Case, denying Applicants' petition for extended area telephone service (EAS) between Bullitt County and Louisville. This decision was appealed and on January 11, 1980, the Court of Appeals of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, in Mrs. Beulah Beam, et al v. PSC, Case No. 79-CA-856-MR, remanded the case to the Commission for a hearing on the Appellants' complaint.

The Commission, having considered this matter, and being advised, is of the opinion and finds that:

1) Prior to a hearing being held in this matter, a survey of potentially affected subscribers should be made, to include both Bullitt County and Louisville subscribers;

2) Cost studies were performed by both of the involved telephone companies in Case No. 5851, which dealt with the same subject, and both South Central Bell Telephone Company (Bell), and Echo Telephone Company (ECHO), should update these cost studies to determine costs to their respective Louisville and Bullitt County subscribers to furnish the proposed EAS;

3) Both Bell and Echo should, at the same time file with the Commission proposed forms of survey and letters of explanation to survey the affected Louisville and Bullitt County subscriber accounts as to their willingness to pay the costs of the proposed EAS;

4) All affected Bullitt County subscriber accounts should be surveyed, and a cross-section of Louisville subscriber accounts should be surveyed, using the same sampling techniques heretofore approved by the Commission in Case No. 7201, Petition of Residents of Simpsonville, Kentucky, requesting a survey to determine the need for EAS between Simpsonville and Louisville;

5) The surveys should be accomplished via the use of pre-paid post cards, addressed to the Secretary of The Utility Regulatory Commission, and each subscriber account should additionally receive the letter of explanation;

6) After the survey cards have been received by the Commission, a hearing date will be set concerning the Applicants' complaint.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that, within thirty (30) days of the date of this ORDER, South Central Bell Telephone Company and ECHO Telephone Company shall file with the Commission cost studies which indicate the cost to affected Bullitt County and Louisville subscribers for providing extended area telephone service between those areas.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, within thirty (30) days of the date of this ORDER, South Central Bell and ECHO shall file with the Commission proposed forms of survey and letters of explanation to be used to survey the affected subscribers:

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, within forty-five (45) days of the date of this ORDER, South Central Bell and ECHO shall survey affected Bullitt County and Louisville subscriber accounts concerning their willingness to pay the costs of the proposed services.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, the surveys should be accomplished via a separate mailing, using pre-paid post cards, addressed to the Secretary of The Utility Regulatory Commission, and each envelope shall further contain a letter of explanation concerning the survey.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that, all affected Bullitt County subscriber accounts shall be surveyed by the respective telephone company which serves those subscribers, and a cross-section of Louisville subscriber accounts shall be surveyed, using the same sampling techniques heretofore approved by the Commission in Case No. 7201, Petition of Residents of Simpsonville, Kentucky, requesting a survey

to determine the need for EAS between Simpsonville and Louisville.

Done at Frankfort, Kentucky, this 7th day of February, 1980.

UTILITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Richard D. Felt
Chairman

Johns Heyman
Vice Chairman

Mary Kay Oaken
Commissioner

ATTEST:

Secretary